



## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairperson and Members  
Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** June 3, 2003

**FROM:** Steve Shiver  
County Manager

**SUBJECT:** New Juvenile Courthouse

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Shiver", is written over the printed name and title of the County Manager.


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The attached item has been placed on the agenda for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners at the request of the Honorable Joseph P. Farina, Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Chairperson and Members  
Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** June 3, 2003

  
**FROM:** Honorable Joseph P. Farina  
Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

**SUBJECT:** New Juvenile Courthouse

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the accompanying resolution be approved authorizing the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida to procure and manage all services and matters pertaining to the development of the New Juvenile Courthouse, to include solicitations for design and construction management services.

### BACKGROUND

The Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court serves the population of Miami-Dade County most in need of attention and care – our children. This Division deals with both dependency matters affecting children who are abused, neglected or abandoned, as well as termination of parental rights; and delinquency matters including adjudication of offenses and programs directed at intervention and diversion from the criminal justice system. The Florida Supreme Court has mandated the creation of a Unified Family Court to provide families and children with an accessible and coordinated means of resolving legal matters, in a fair efficient and effective manner. The County-owned property commonly known as the North Parking Lot and located at 112 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street has been designated (R-1065-01) as the site for construction of the Juvenile Courthouse because of its proximity to the Lawson E. Thomas Courthouse Center, which currently handles the Court's Domestic Violence and Family Divisions, and public transit facilities.

Revision 7 to Article V of the Florida Constitution requires the State of Florida to fund much of court operations and designates the provision of facilities as a function of county government. To this end, Miami-Dade County has identified funding, including the issuance of special obligation bonds (O-02-172, R-144-03) backed by incremental filing fees for the acquisition, construction and equipment of the New Juvenile Courthouse. The facility will be built as a courthouse only, with space available for an expanded judiciary and judicial personnel, court administrative offices, court supportive service areas (such as training rooms, drop-in childcare and child-friendly waiting areas), the Clerk of the Court, a Law Library and Police Liaison Office.

A consultant has been identified through a Request for Proposals to begin an analysis of the programming of the New Juvenile Courthouse in May. This analysis is anticipated to be six months in duration and the contract deliverables will be used in the solicitation of design and construction management services. The Circuit has also initiated a recruitment process for a dedicated Project Manager to supervise the design and construction of the courthouse. It is anticipated that additional project management staff will also be hired.

The facilities in which the Juvenile Division operates were built 25 years ago and have been sorely inadequate for the population it now serves for some time. The facilities lack the technological capacity to link the Juvenile Court with the Family and Domestic Violence Divisions and the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC), resulting in the inability for the court divisions and agencies which may be directly involved in proceedings affecting a particular child to share information in a timely basis. Support personnel are housed in aging, cramped trailers.

Visitors to the court encounter a lack of parking, difficulty in locating the services they require and the inconvenience of having to travel from the current facility on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the other court facilities and JAC located downtown. The conditions at the current facility are deplorable.

To address the critical facility needs of the juvenile court system and to expedite the process for the solicitation of design and construction management services, I recommend designating my administrative staff to administer all aspects pertaining to the development of the New Juvenile Courthouse. The Circuit has the ability to utilize accelerated procurement processes and will have dedicated project staff on board. Circuit staff will work closely with the County's Department of Procurement Management, the Office of Capital Improvements Construction Coordination, the Department of Business Development, the General Services Administration and all other appropriate departments to ensure that all State statutory and County established contracting and construction requirements are met. Status reports will be provided to the Board of County Commissioners on a quarterly basis.

Attachment




# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairperson and Members  
Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** June 3, 2003

**FROM:**   
Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- ☐ Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- ☐ No committee review

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)  
6-3-03

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING THE  
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, ACTING BY  
AND THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE  
COURTS (THE "COURT"), TO PROCURE AND MANAGE  
ALL SERVICES AND MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW JUVENILE COURTHOUSE,  
TO INCLUDE THE PROCUREMENT OF DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THIS  
COURT FACILITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Supreme Court has mandated the creation of a Unified Family Court to provide families and children with an accessible and coordinated means of resolving legal matters, in a fair, efficient and effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the Juvenile Division of the Court, which handles dependency and delinquency matters pertaining to the children of Miami-Dade County, is presently located in an outdated facility with deplorable conditions on NW. 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 33<sup>rd</sup> Street; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to comply with the Supreme Court's mandate and in order to better serve these children who are most in need of attention and care, it was determined that the construction of New Juvenile Courthouse was necessary to, inter alia, (a) provide a technological link between the Juvenile Division, the Family and Domestic Violence Divisions, and the Juvenile Assessment Center, to share information in a timely basis, and (b) provide decent and adequate space

for an expanded judiciary and judicial personnel, court administrative offices, court supportive service areas, the Clerk of the Court, a Law Library and Police Liaison Office; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Revision 7 to Article V of the Florida Constitution, the State of Florida is required to fund much of court operations and county government is required to provide court facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, accordingly, pursuant to Board of County Commission Resolution No. R-1065-01, the County-owned property commonly known as the North Parking Lot (located at 112 NW. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street) has been designated as the site for the construction of the New Juvenile Courthouse because of its proximity to the Lawson E. Thomas Courthouse Center (wherein the Court's Domestic Violence Family Divisions are located), the Dade County Courthouse, and public transit facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the site designation, Miami-Dade County has identified funding for the construction of the New Juvenile Courthouse, including the issuance of special obligation funds (O-02-172, R-144-03) backed by incremental filing fees for the acquisition, construction and equipment of this court facility; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of a Request for Proposal process, a consultant has been identified to begin an analysis of the programming of the New Juvenile Courthouse, commencing in May for a period of approximately six months; and

**WHEREAS**, upon the completion of such analysis and in accordance with the consultant's contractual deliverables, design and construction management services for the New Juvenile Courthouse should be procured; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the critical facility needs of the Juvenile Division, the Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit has requested that the Court be designated and authorized to procure and manage all services and matters pertaining to the development of the New Juvenile Courthouse, to include the procurement of design and construction management services, so as to expedite the process for soliciting such services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court is committed to engaging the services of qualified professionals, who will be solely dedicated to overseeing the design and construction of the New Juvenile Courthouse, as were similarly engaged for the Performing Arts Center; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the Court's designation and authorization to function in this manner, the Court shall work closely with the County's Department of Procurement Management, the Office of Capital Improvements Construction Coordination, the Department of Business Development, the General Services Administration and all other appropriate departments to ensure that all State statutory and County established contracting and construction requirements are met; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court will provide a status report to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the construction project on a quarterly basis,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA** that the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, acting by and through the Administrative Office of the Courts, is designated and authorized to procure and manage all services and matters pertaining to the development of the new

juvenile courthouse, to include the procurement of design and construction management services for this court facility.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Bruno A. Barreiro  
Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Sally A. Heyman  
Jimmy L. Morales  
Dorrin D. Rolle  
Katy Sorenson

Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler  
Betty T. Ferguson  
Joe A. Martinez  
Dennis C. Moss  
Natacha Seijas  
Rebeca Sosa

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2003. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

RAC

Murray A. Greenberg